

* 1970 minutes *

Memo for the Record

By: Donald C. Norseth

Re: Distribution of Lower Jordan River

Date: January 5, 1971

A meeting was held January 21, 1970, at 2:00 p.m. concerning the distribution for 1970 of the Lower Jordan River. At this meeting a discussion of the problems of 1969 was held, and the resignation of Mr. Paul E. Maucher was accepted. It was decided at the meeting to have the committee select a candidate for commissioner.

Due to the inability of the committee to select a commissioner for 1970, the Lower Jordan River was operated by cooperative agreement. It was decided that until the adjudication was completed and all water rights clarified and all proper diversion structures installed, the water users could be allocated their water by control of a few points on the river. These points are:

1. Brighton-North Point Diversion.
2. 21st South Diversion (divided 50% down Jordan River and 50% down the surplus canal).
3. North Point Consolidated Canal Diversion from the surplus canal.
4. Goggin Drain.
5. Heusted Dam.
6. Jordan River-Burnham Dam.

Hogle Investment Corporation through the cooperation of Edwin Whitney employed a local man who lives at the site of the 21st South diversion to regulate at this point. The other regulation points were operated by the water users who utilized water from them.

A budget of \$5,500 was approved by the committee with an assessment of an amount to cover the budget. This amount was assessed and collected by the State Engineer. However, only small expenditures have been made from the monies.

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Distribution in 1970 was not without some problems. Flood control by Salt Lake City created problems during the year at different times. In addition, contractors doing various construction projects and different entities shut the water off to facilitate these jobs. The State Engineer utilized his distribution personnel in investigating and carrying out regulation of the river. Perhaps the most serious problem was the drying up of the Lower Jordan River in October, the day before the duck season opened. A memo by Donald Norseth dated October 5 explains this problem.* With the drying of the Lower Jordan River channel and thus putting the local gun clubs in jeopardy, the State Engineer requested the Utah Lake and Jordan River water users to turn down water on a cooperative basis. They immediately responded, and their assistance in releasing water from the lake for this purpose is sincerely appreciated. It is recommended, however, that in 1971 we make a more active search for a commissioner and that one be employed, or that all water users understand the cooperative system and establish distribution on that basis.

Attached
Sheet

DCN/mt